



## Central Islip Union Free School District

Board of Education & School District Policy Book

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Section	Section Title	Type
4000	Instruction	Local
Policy	Policy Title	
4850	Animals in the Schools	

The Board of Education recognizes that the study of living things is essential to effective instruction in the life sciences. The primary goals for demonstrations and investigations involving animals are to achieve an interest in and an understanding of the life processes, to demonstrate biological principles, and to teach proper care and handling of animals. Therefore, the Board requires that any such instructional activities, investigations, and projects be well-planned and adequately supervised, and be conducted with a respect for life and an appreciation of the health and safety of both animals and students.

The Board also recognizes that some students have a moral or religious objection to dissection or otherwise harming or destroying animals. In accordance with state law, students shall have the right to opt out of dissection activities, provided that the student performs an alternative project approved by the student's teacher. The objection must be substantiated in writing by the student's parent or guardian.

1st Reading: December 13, 2010

2nd Reading: January 10, 2011

Adoption Date: January 10, 2011

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### Reference:

Education Law §80g(4)

Responsible Use of Live Animals and Dissection in the Science Classroom, National Science Teachers Association Position Statement, revised March 2008 ([www.nsta.org/about/positions/animals.aspx](http://www.nsta.org/about/positions/animals.aspx))